

Vonage Holdings & New Jersey Marathon Provide Support for Girls with Turner Syndrome.

Nick Russo's daughter, Cece, was diagnosed with Turner Syndrome, a random chromosomal condition found in girls, when she was 3 years old. In fact, it took a second endocrinologist to diagnose Cece with Turner Syndrome.

"Turner Syndrome Foundation is such a fantastic group of committed people who want to make a difference in the lives of girls and women with Turner Syndrome. We were desperate to find support and a network when Cece was first diagnosed and I had to search very hard to find local families dealing with Turner Syndrome. We have since developed a small group of local contacts, but TSF has been an impressive high-functioning group that truly makes active efforts to educate and inform," says Russo.

Now, in support of their daughter, Nick and his wife have decided to join Team TSF and participate in some of the events at the **New Jersey Marathon and Festival at the Shore** on May 5 – 6 and help raise awareness for TS.

"My wife and I were high school runners and have continued running for fitness for the past 25 years or so. I have done some half marathons but never felt the drive to do a full marathon until this cause was a sponsored cause--because I have a personal connection. My wife, Mary Catherine, decided to join me in the fundraising, too and is training for the half marathon... We felt it was a way to make a difference and challenge ourselves in the process... It was something we wanted to do together for others in Cece's name," says Russo.

Don't worry; you don't have to be an experienced runner like Nick to participate. There are events on Saturday, May 5, 2012 perfect for families and individuals of any athletic ability, with the marathon and half marathon taking place on Sunday May 6, 2012. If you can't find an event of your liking, you can volunteer, donate or come and cheer on the participants, while enjoying beautiful ocean views.

Vonage Holdings, a Holmdel corporation located right off Main Street is committed to supporting the Foundation by paying a portion of their employees fundraising fees to join as runners and walkers as part of Team TSF. "It is wonderful to gain support from a leading national communications provider in tandem with our goal to advance communications about this virtually unknown disorder in women. We couldn't be more delighted to have the support of Vonage", said Director and Founding President, and Holmdel resident, Laura Fasciano. She continued, "Being touched by Turner Syndrome has changed our family, and seeing this vision take shape and supported by industry strengthens our lofty ambitions."

What is TS?

TS affects 1 in 2,000 girls and occurs when one of the female X chromosomes is completely or partially missing. Unfortunately, TS is not very well known, even with

doctors and nurses, and is often not diagnosed until the patient is around 14 years old. It is a random genetic mutation, it just happens.

Why Team TSF? The more people we have spreading the word about TS, the more people will recognize it. Remember, the sooner patients are diagnosed and start treatments, the better. And it all starts with awareness and education.

Do It For The Girls! Join our team as a runner or a volunteer to show your support. Youth volunteers 12 and up will earn volunteer credits and be awarded a volunteer certificate.

[Register](#) FOR THE MARATHON

New Jersey Marathon Festival at the Shore

On Saturday, May 5th, there is a health and fitness expo; a 3-mile “Fun” Run/Walk, a non-competitive race with no clocks, and strollers are welcome; a “kids” 1.2 mile marathon, this event, which is perfect for “kids” of all ages (8-99) finishes at the official finish line of the NJ marathon and Long Branch Half marathon; and kids races for kids, 9 separate races for kids 2-12 years old. Each race participant will receive a special medal and commemorative T-Shirt while supplies last.

While you’re not racing, the family can enjoy crafts, face painting, the “Fun Bus” fitness on wheels (for ages 2-8), refreshments, and a DJ.

All the events are done by noon, so there is plenty of time to enjoy the many restaurants and shops on the nearby boardwalk.

On Sunday, May 6th, events include the NJ Marathon (26.2 miles), Long Branch Half Marathon (13.1 miles), and Long Branch Half Marathon Relay.

Treats and Sweets Bake Sale for TS

Baked goods are needed by 4/4/12. If you would like to donate, please contact Tammy at ttopoleski@tsfusa.org

For more information on Turner Syndrome, Turner Syndrome Foundation, Inc., or to register with Team TSF, volunteer or donate, visit the Foundation’s website: www.tsfusa.org or call 1-800-594-4585.